

REMARKS

In the last Office Action, claims 1-12, 24 and 25 were allowed, claims 13-21 were rejected and claims 22-23 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim and were otherwise indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants and applicants' attorney acknowledge with appreciation the allowance of claims 1-12, 24 and 25 and the indication of allowability concerning dependent claims 22 and 23.

For clarification, claims 5-8 and 11 were previously canceled and thus the indication of allowability of these claims is in error. Also, allowed claim 25 is a dependent claim, which depends on claim 13, and therefore needs to be placed in independent form in order to be allowed.

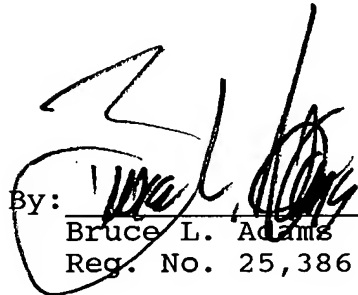
In accordance with this amendment, rejected claims 13-21 together with objected to claims 22-23 have been canceled. Claims 5-8 and 11 were previously canceled. Allowable dependent claim 25 has been amended to independent form to incorporate the subject matter of base claim 1, thereby placing claim 25 in allowable form.

As a result of the amendments made herein, only allowed claims 1-4, 9-10, 12, 24 and 25 remain pending in the application, and all other claims have been canceled. The only amendment made herein is the amendment of allowable dependent claim 25 to independent form, and such amendment does not raise a new issue that would require further search or consideration.

As the present amendment does, on its face, place the application in condition for allowance, favorable reconsideration and entry of this amendment together with passage of the application to issue are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

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Date